ALASKA MARINE PARK SYSTEM



QH 91.75 .A4 .A43 .1983

RKS CREATION



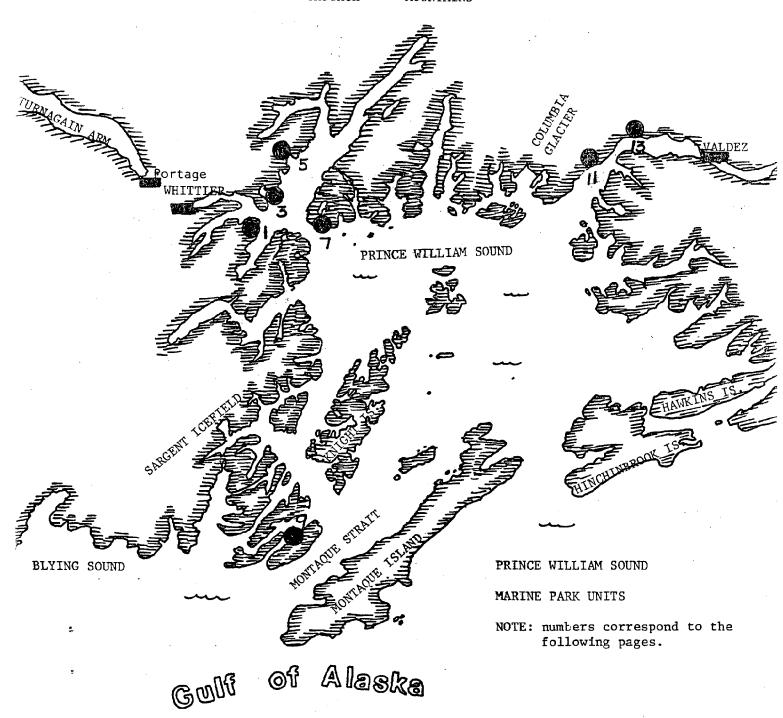
ALASKA MARINE PARK SYSTEM

| Contents | • • | Page |
|-----------------------------|-------|------|
| Prince William Sound Region | . Мар | . А |
| Southeast Alaska Region Map | | . В |
| Surprise Cove | | . 1 |
| Zeigler Cove (Pigot) | , | . 3 |
| Bettles Bay | | . 5 |
| South Esther Island | • | . 7 |
| Horseshoe Bay | | . 9 |
| Sawmill Bay | | . 11 |
| Shoup Bay | | . 13 |
| Chilkat Islands | · | . 15 |
| Sullivan Island | ••••• | . 17 |
| Saint James Bay | ••••• | . 19 |
| Shelter Island | | . 21 |
| Oliver Inlet | | . 23 |
| | | |
| Prepared by | | |
| Alaska Division of Parks | | |

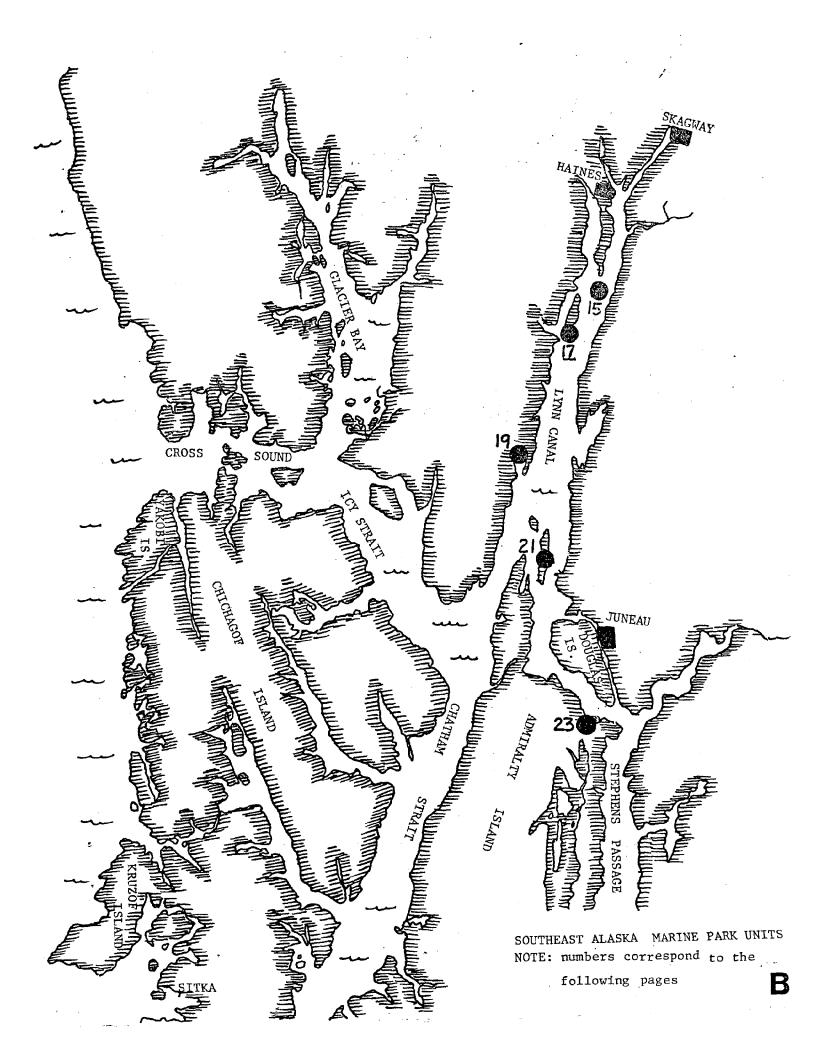
July 1983

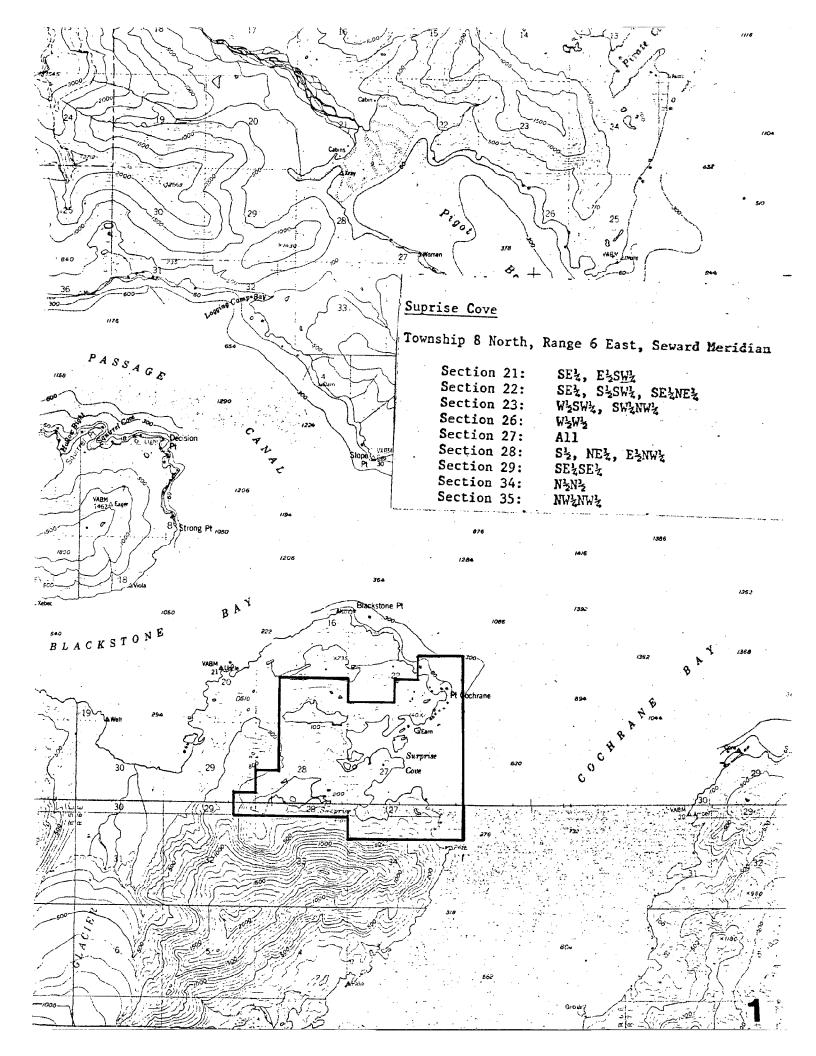
CHUGACH

MOUNTAINS



А





Name Size

land 1,425
SURPRISE COVE water 855

water 855 total 2,280

General Location

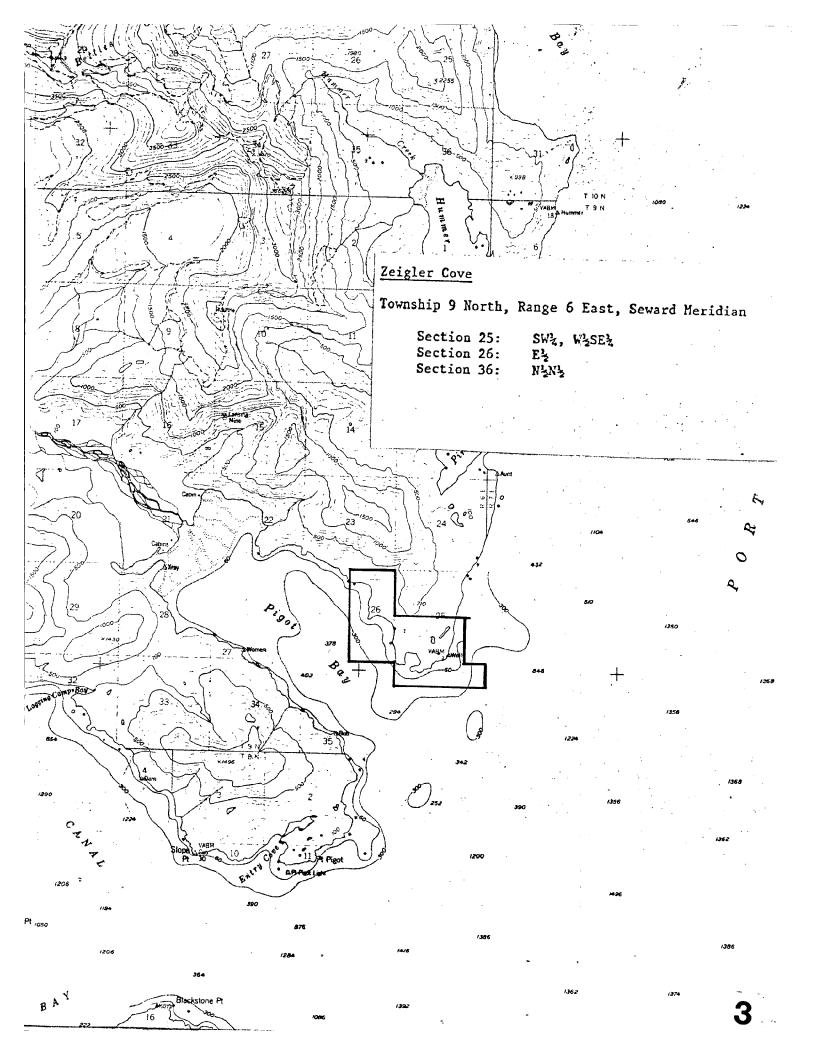
Approximately 15 air miles east of the city of Whittier by boat, Surprise Cove is conveniently located along a major route of pleasure boats between Whittier and western Prince William Sound and is at the entrance to Cochrane Bay.

Description of the Area

Surprise Cove contains two small embayments off of Cochrane Bay. Two freshwater lakes are also contained within the unit. Surprise Cove offers a well protected anchorage for pleasure boats. Mountain goats are found on the peaks near the cove. Porpoise are often observed at Point Cochrane. A small beach near the entrance to the cove is suitable for a beach campsite for kayakers.

Reason for Marine Park Status

Surprise Cove is strategically located along a heavily traveled pleasure boat route. The cove receives heavy weekend overnight use by boaters originating from Whittier.



Name Size

land 305

Zeigler Cove water 415

total 720

General Location

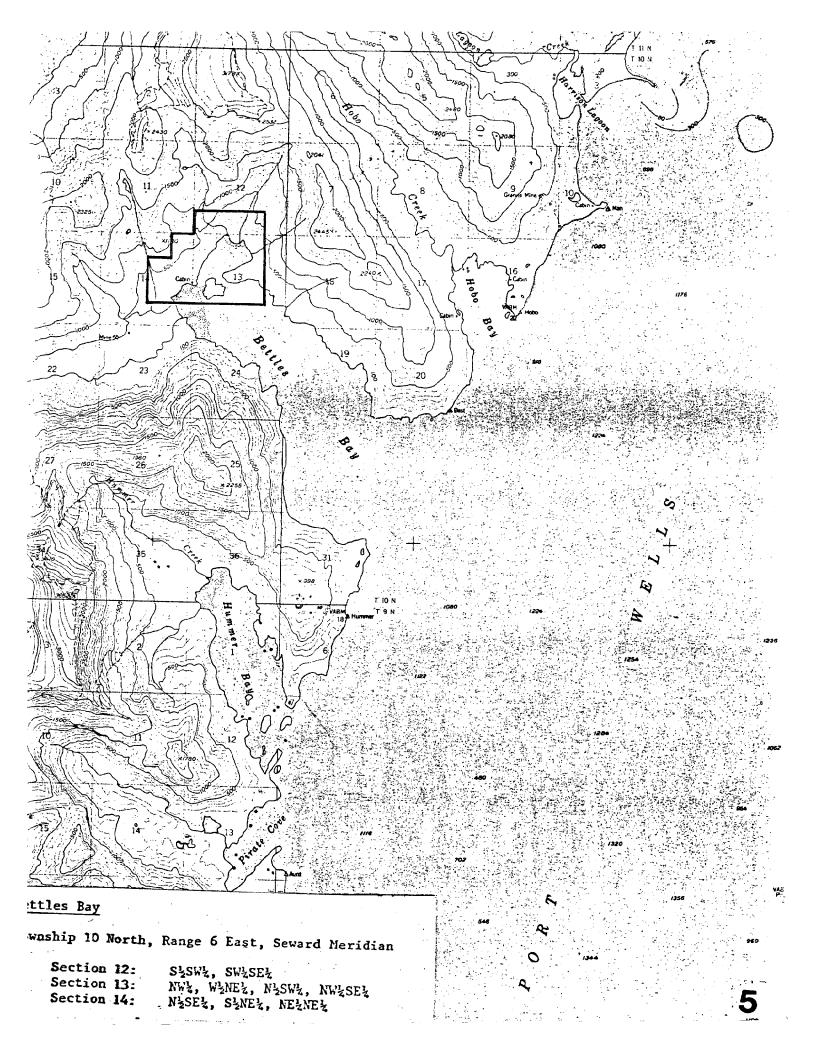
Zeigler Cove is located approximately 14 miles east (by boat) from the city of Whittier. It is located on the northern shore of the entrance to Pigot Bay, a bay on the west side of Port Wells.

Description of the Area

Zeigler Cove offers a small but very well protected anchorage for pleasure boaters. The cove is located on a forested and low-lying point extending into both Pigot Bay and Port Wells. Waters near Zeigler Cove offer numerous attraction to sport anglers. Red Snapper, Halibut, Pink, Chum and King Salmon, as well as Dungeness Crab are found in Pigot Bay.

Reason for Marine Park Status

Zeigler Cove is a traditionally used anchorage for pleasure boaters originating out of Whittier. The cove provides an excellent protected anchorage as well as opportunities for hiking in the uplands.



Name

land 555

BETTLES BAY water 125 total 683

General Location

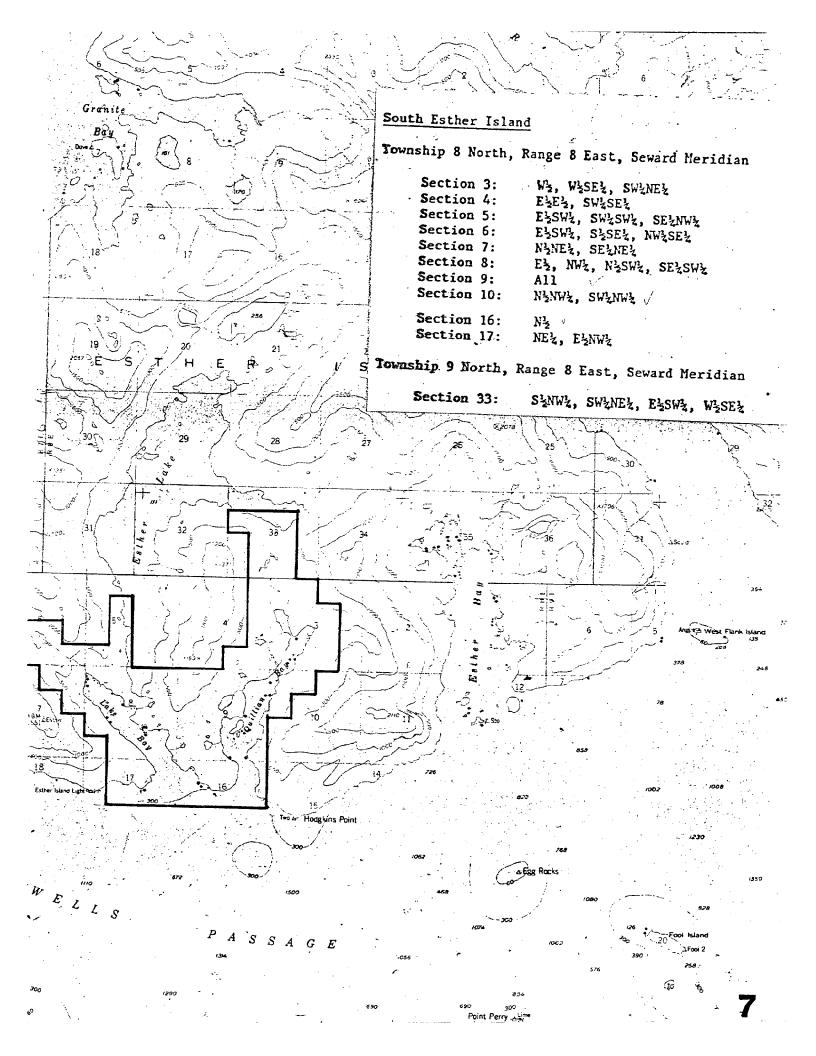
Bettles Bay is located approximately 20 miles from the city of Whittier by small boat. It is located in the central portion of the western shoreline of Port Wells.

Description of the Area

Large and well protected, Bettles Bay is a favorite of boaters exploring the Port Wells area, as it is thought to be one of the most scenic bays of the west shore of this major waterway. A number of wildlife species, including the black bear, sea lions, geese, whales, waterfowl, seals, dungeness crab, halibut, pink and chum salmon are reported in the area. An abandoned mine is located outside of the proposed marine parks and is approximately one-half mile southwest of the park boundary.

Reason for Marine Park Status

Bettles Bay has long been a traditional overnight destination anchorage for Whittier-based boaters. Because of this and a well protected anchorage, it was established as a unit of the Alaska Marine Park System.



Name

SOUTH ESTHER ISLAND water

water 1,075 total 3,360

2,285

Size

General Location

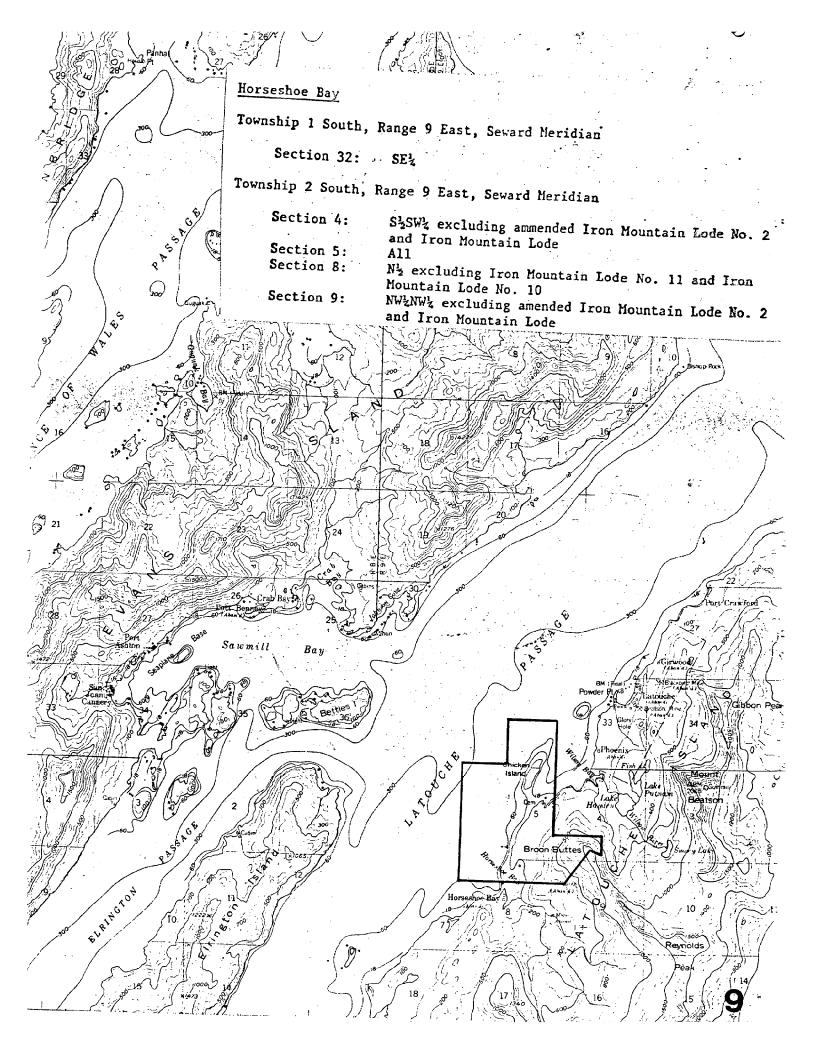
South Esther Island is located approximately 20 miles due east of Whittier. The island is located at the confluence of Wells Passage and Port Wells in upper Prince William Sound.

Description of the Area

The area is comprised of Sitka spruce forest interspersed with rolling muskeg and numerous small lakes. Anchorages can be found in both Lake and Quillian bays with the latter being preferred. Esther Island is highly scenic with a number of 2,000 peaks of granite. Boaters frequently can observe whales in Port Wells to the west and sea lions are frequently hauled out on nearby islands and rocks. Sea birds nest in the area and seals and otters are also known to be present. This area is located along a heavily used cross sound pleasure boat route between Valdez and Whittier. The state ferry Bartlett also passes near this area on a daily basis as well as commercial tour boats operating between Whittier and Valdez. The area has been identified by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the development of a fish hatchery in the lake bay. The fish hatchery will apparently be developed by the Prince William Sound Acquaculture Corporation in the near future.

Reason for Marine Park Status

South Esther Island is both a destination for Whittier-based pleasure boaters as well as a convenient overnight anchorage for vessels in transit. Quillian Bay has long been used by the commercial fishing fleet as an anchorage during commercial salmon openings. This area will provide for public and recreational needs, and well be managed in a manner compatible with the goals of the proposed fish hatchery and commercial fishing industry. South Esther Island represents an important base of operations for excursions in the Port Wells area, Port Nellie Juan area and Culross Passage.



Name

Size

land 286 water 684

HORSESHOE BAY

total 970

General Location

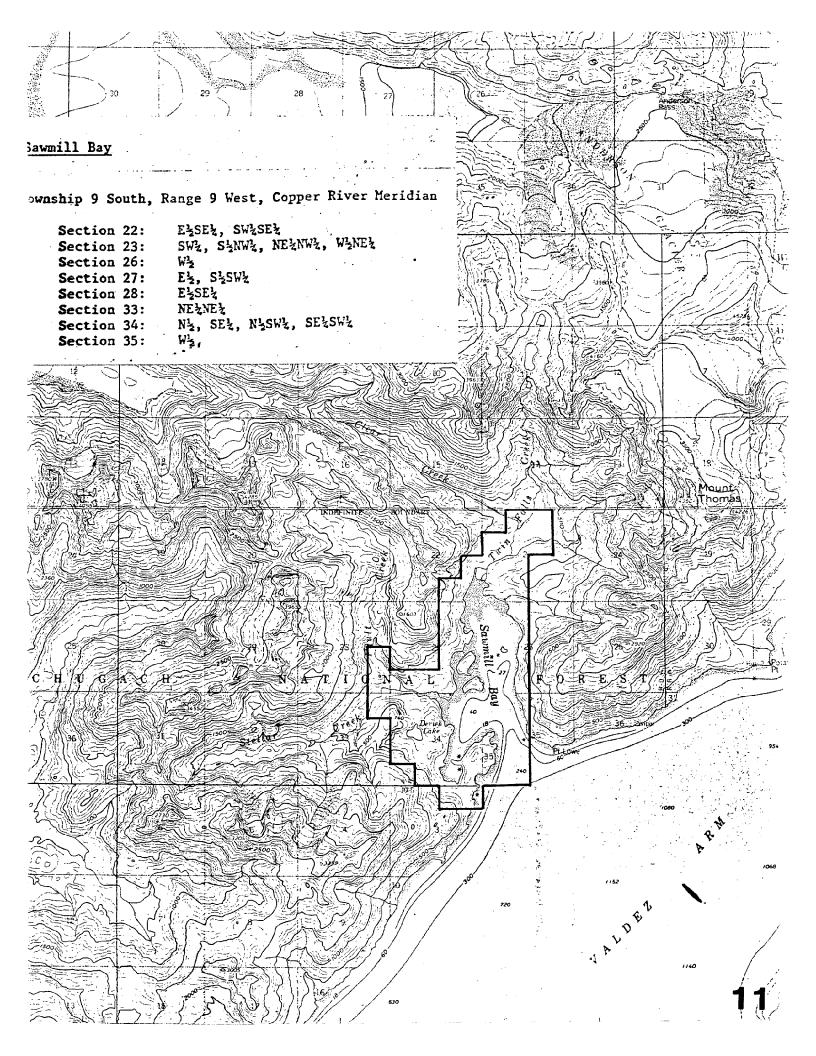
Horseshoe Bay is located in southwestern Prince William Sound. It is approximately half way between Seward and Whittier by boat.

Description of the Area

Although somewhat exposed to southwesterly winds, Horseshoe Bay offers the most protected anchorage along the Latouche Island shoreline. Horseshoe Bay and Latouche Island area are quite scenic with nearby peaks rising up to 2,000 feet. The old gold mining town of Latouche, located two miles to the northeast, has been subdivided for recreational homesites. The Alaska legislature has appropriated funds to develop a public boat harbor at Latouche. Private lands to the south of the proposed park are expected to be subdivided and offered for sale in 1983. All other lands on Latouche Island, except for a forty acre parcel at the southwest tip of the island, are or will soon be privately owned. Chugach Natives, Incorporated recently received the bulk of the island as part of it's land entitlement under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The area has excellent opportunities for hiking and climbing the nearby Broon Buttes. Whales, seals, and sea lions frequent Latouche Passage.

Reason for Marine Park Status

This area was established as a marine park because it is the best anchorage on Latouche Island and one of the last two remaining parcels of public property on the island. The bay offers the opportunity to provide not only public park lands for future residents of the island, but also for visitors to the island.



Name Size

land 1,430 water 890 ±

SAWMILL BAY atter 890 total 2.320

General Location

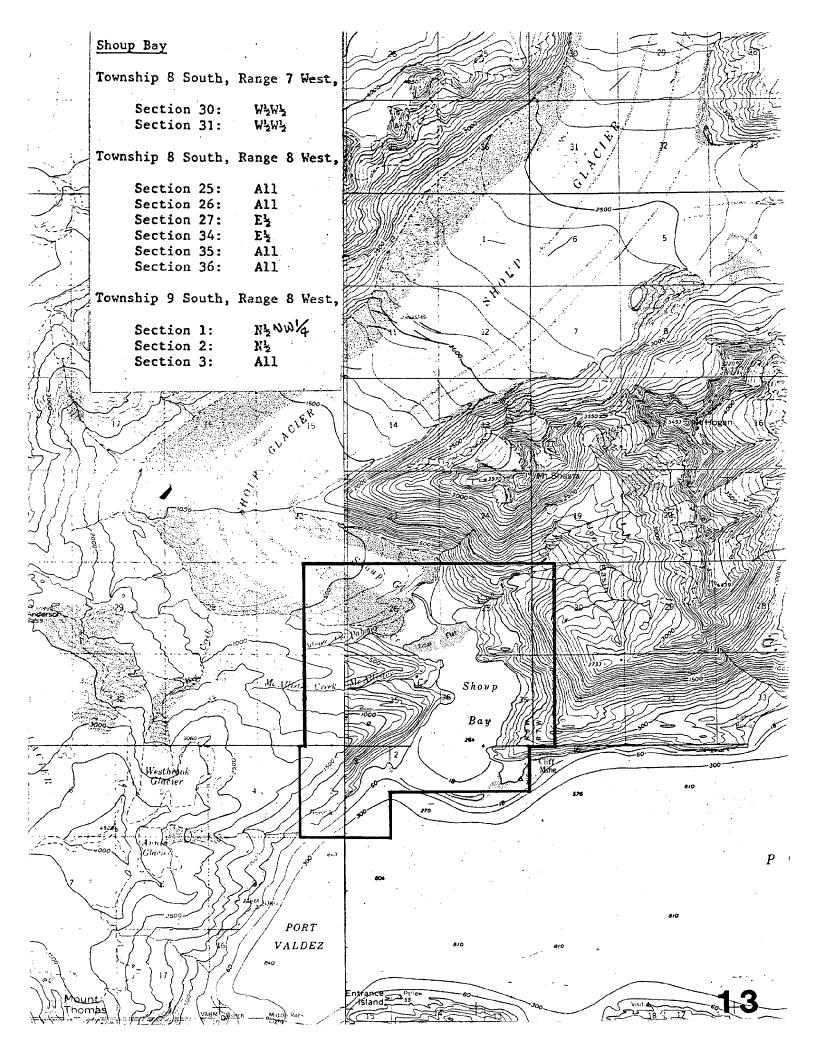
Sawmill Bay is located approximately 14 miles west and south of the city of Valdez. It is located on the northern shoreline of Port Valdez.

Description of the Area

Sawmill Bay is a large well protected bay offering several good anchorages for pleasure boaters. Recreation opportunities in the area include sport fishing for silver salmon, crab, clams and halibut. A public use cabin has been constructed by the U.S. Forest Service in the southernmost branch of Sawmill Bay. Sawmill Bay receives considerable use by boaters originating from Valdez. Opportunities for hiking exist along Twin Falls Creek and near Devish Lake.

Reason for Marine Park Status

Sawmill Bay was established as a state marine park because of it's traditional use by boaters from Valdez and boaters in transit to and from Valdez and other parts of Prince William Sound.



Name

Size

SHOUP BAY

land 2,925 water 1,635 total 4,560

General Location

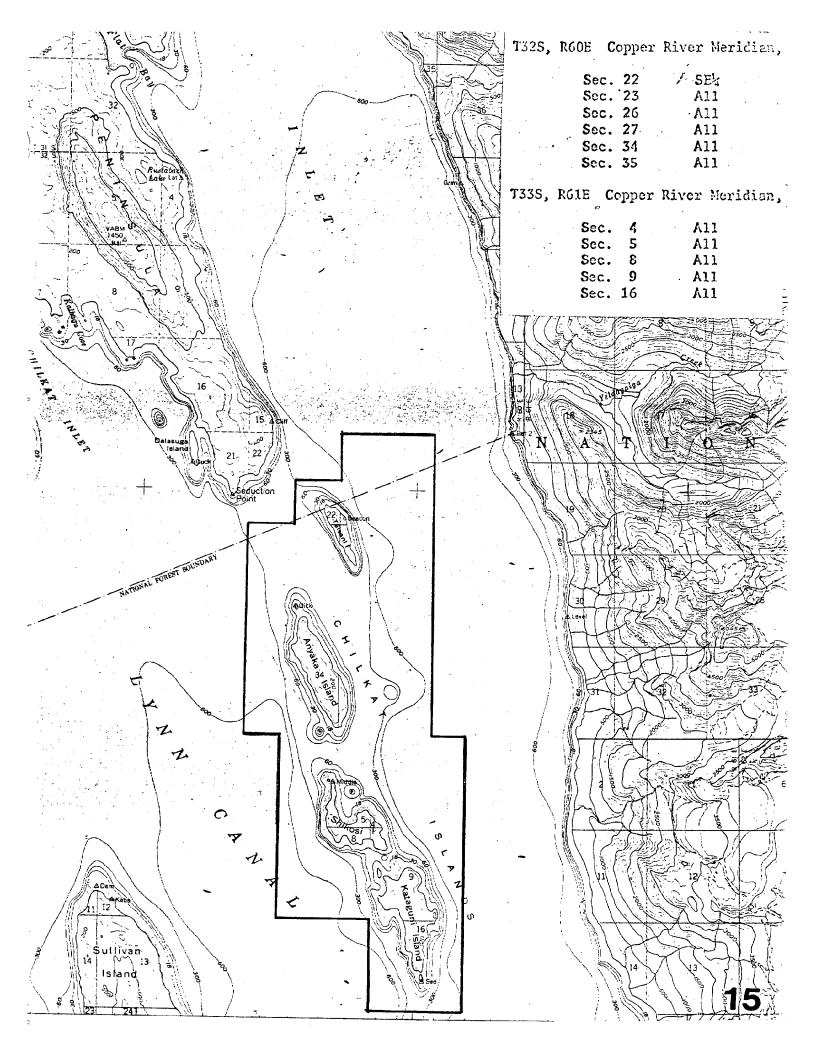
Shoup Bay is located 7.5 miles west of the city of Valdez by boat on the north shore of Port Valdez.

Description of the Area

Shoup Bay is very scenic with Shoup Glacier extending almost to the bay from the northwest and a large sand pit extending across the mouth of the bay. Fishing, wildlife viewing, and visiting the glacier are the most common reasons for use of the area by the public. Mountain goats can be observed on the slopes above the bay while ducks can be seen feeding on the tidal flats. Shoup Glacier is the main tributary to the huge glacier that carved Valdez Arm. Shoup Bay is also listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for the height of the waves in the bay during the 1964 earthquake. It is said that the bay emptied and filled three times. A well protected anchorage does not exist in the bay. Short-term or fair-weather anchorages can be found in several areas depending on wind direction.

Reason for Marine Park Status

This area was established as a marine park because of it's unique natural features and it's close proximity to Valdez. Shoup Bay could, in the future also become an important destination for tour boats operating out of Valdez.



Name

Size

CHILKAT ISLANDS

land 503 water 6,057 total 6,560

General Location

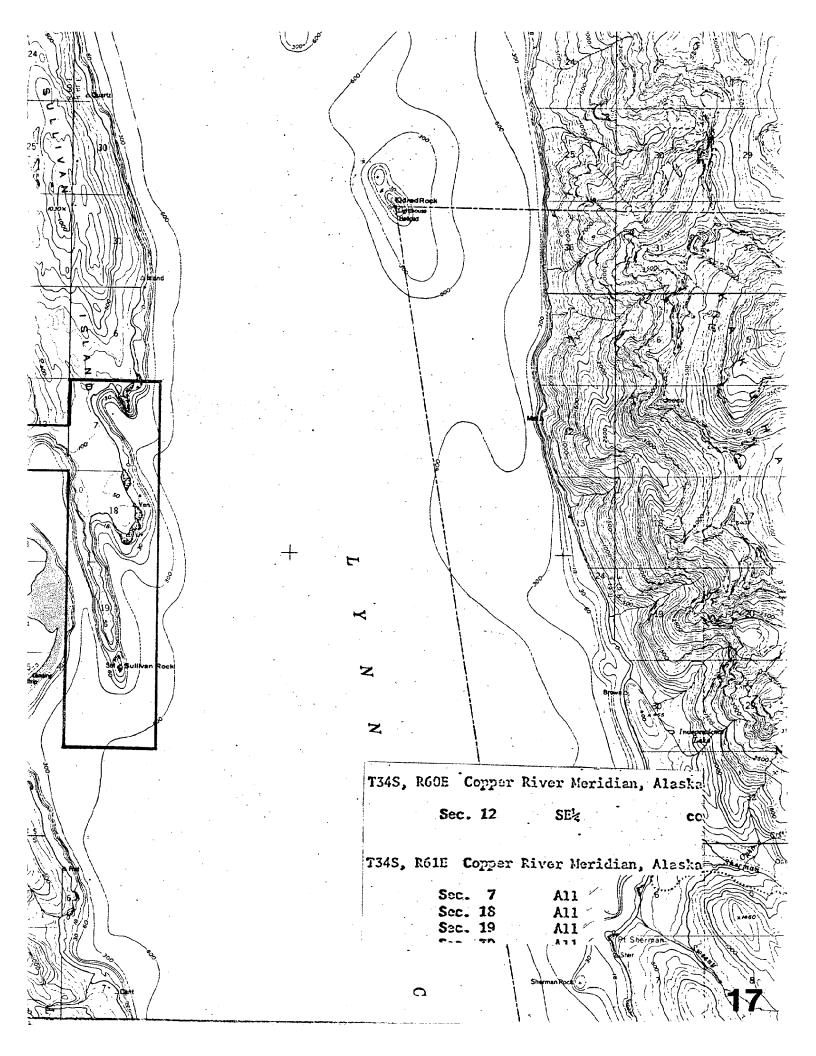
The Chilkat Islands are located 13 miles south of Haines by boat. The islands are located directly off the tip of the Chilkat Peninsula which is an existing state park (Chilkat State Park).

Description of the Area

Four small islands comprising 503 acres in total are included within the proposed park. The islands are forested with Sitka spruce and hemlock. These islands are accessible during a day or afternoon of boating from the boat launch located in Chilkat State Park. Reasonably well protected anchorages occur in several locations and could possibly be enhanced with mooring buoys.

Reason for Marine Park Status

The designation of these islands as a state marine park compliments the existing recreational opportunities found in adjacent Chilkat State Park. This designation would also assure continued public use of these islands while maintaining their natural setting. The islands are close to Chilkat State Park and the community of Haines. With the existence of state park facilities and staff on the Chilkat Peninsula, it is expected that these islands can be managed as a state park unit with minimal additional operating expense. The islands offer an excellent opportunity for kayaking, boating, fishing, beachcombing and camping.



Name

Size

SULLIVAN ISLAND

land 618 water 2,102 total 2,720

General Location

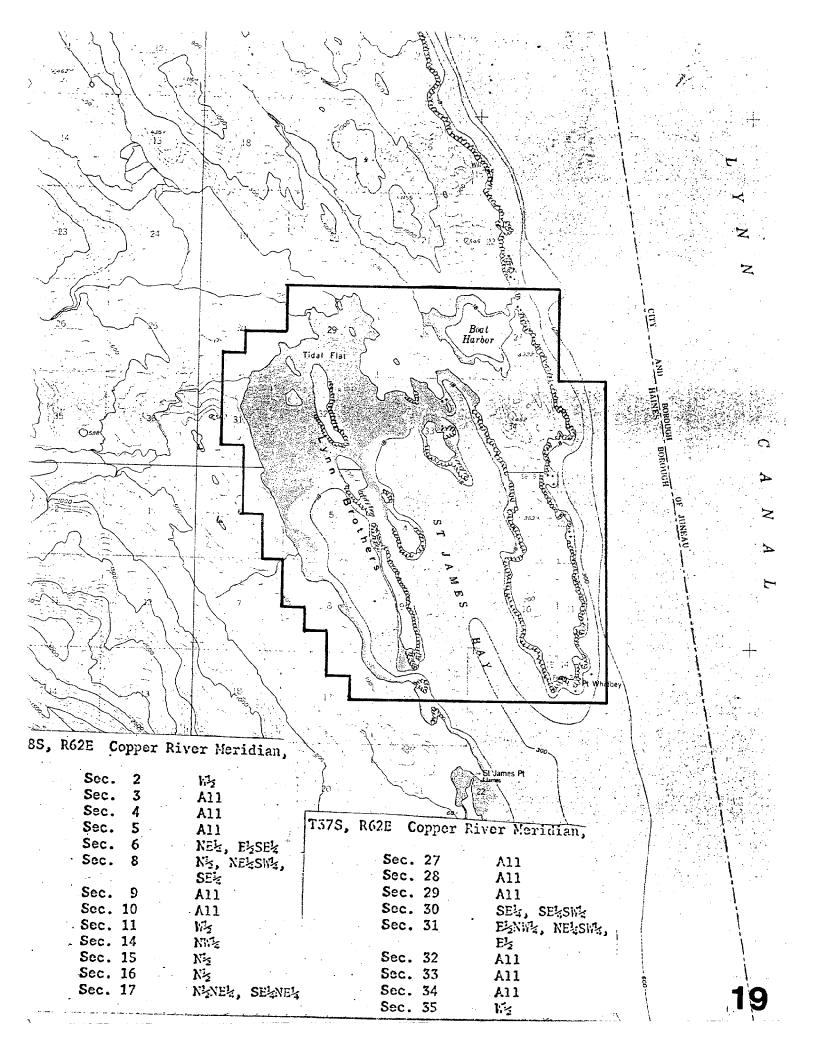
Sullivan Island is located in Lynn Canal approximately 19 miles south of Haines. The area proposed for park status is located six miles south of the Chilkat Islands.

Description of the Area

The southern tip of Sullivan Island which is proposed for marine park status is a three-mile long peninsula extending due south in Lynn Canal. This area is comprised of old growth of Sitka spruce and hemlock forests and a number of gravel beaches. Protected moorage can be found within the area. Sullivan Island provides a link for pleasure boaters traveling between Juneau and Haines. Salmon and halibut fishing are an established use of this area. Fishing, boating, picnicking, beachcombing and camping are all possible uses of this area. The area is popular for deer hunting.

Reason for Marine Park Status

The area was established for marine park status because of it's stragegic location along the Haines-Juneau boating route, it's existing recreation use and opportunities for enhancing recreation use.



Name Size

land 3,385 water 6,835

ST. JAMES BAY water 6,835 total 10,220

General Location

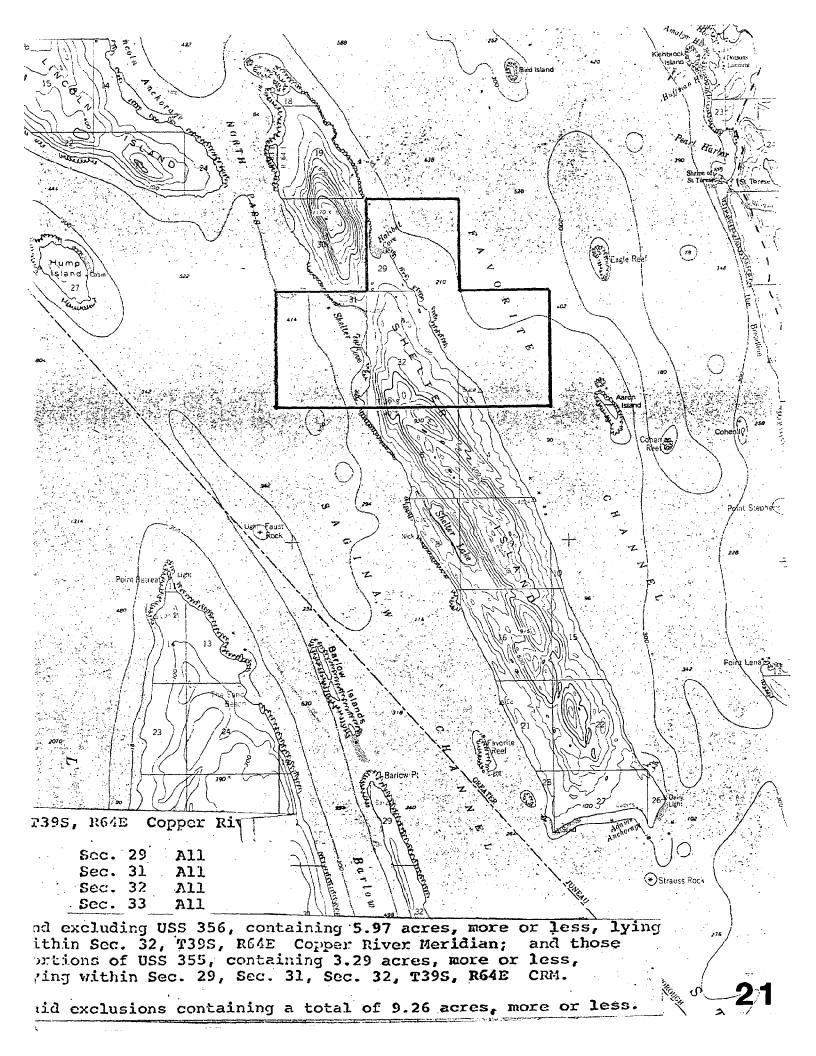
St. James Bay is located on the west side of Lynn Canal 12 miles northwest of Tee Harbor (Juneau) and approximately 42 miles south of Haines.

Description of the Area

The area possesses numerous protected beaches, tidal flats, and is forested with old growth, Sitka spruce. St. James Bay is both a destination recreational area as well as an overnight stop for boaters enroute between Haines and Juneau. Kayaking, boating, fishing, beachcombing, hiking, camping and picnicking are all existing uses of this area. It is within an easy day travel by boat from Juneau. Alaska Department of Fish and Game has identified Saint James Bay as the best waterfowl habitat and hunting area on Lynn Canal. Populations of black and brown bear and mountain goats exist within the area and to the west in the Chilkat mountain range.

Reason for Marine Park Status

This area was proposed for marine park status in the <u>Juneau Area Recreation Plan</u> (an interagency planning effort completed in June of $\overline{1982}$).



.Name

SHELTER ISLAND

Size

land 298 water 2,262 total 2,560

General Location

Shelter Island is located six miles west of Tee Harbor (Juneau). The island is located approximately 20 miles to the northwest by small boat from downtown Juneau.

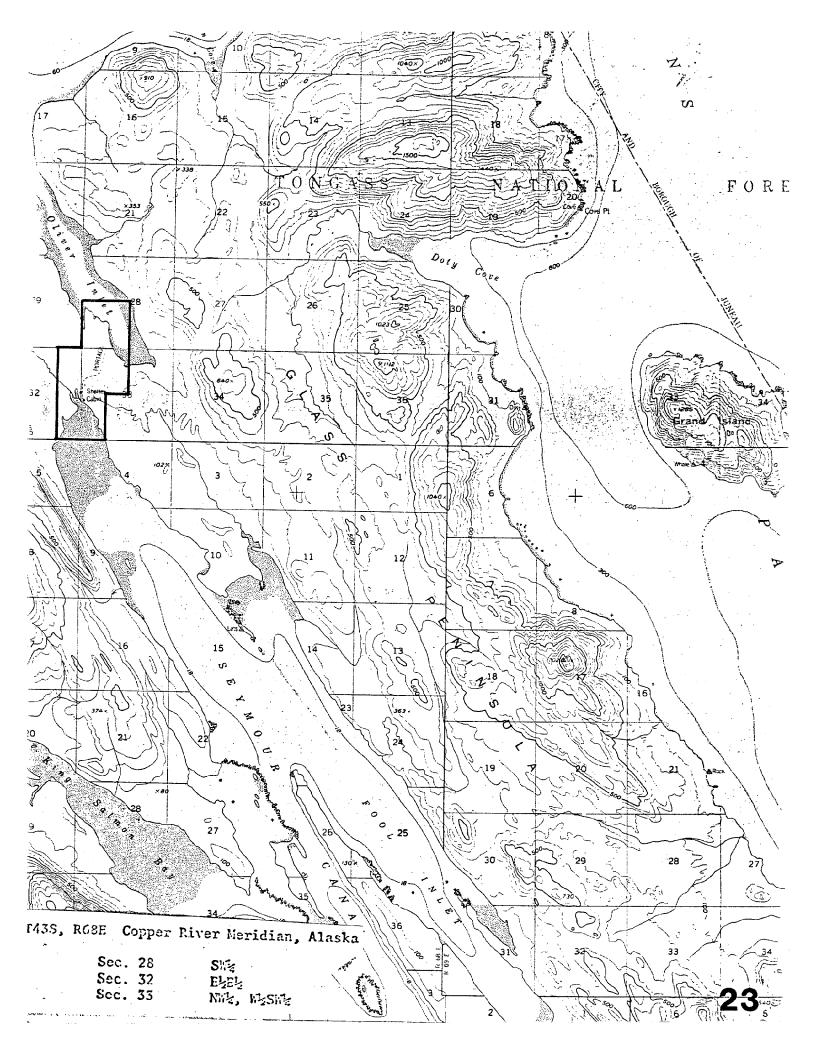
Description of the Area

The area proposed for a state marine park is located in the north central portion of Shelter Island. The area includes Hand Troller Cove (also called Shelter Cove) on the western side of Shelter Island and Halibut Cove on the eastern or Tee Harbor side of the island. A nine-unit picnic facility has been developed within the area proposed for park status. This area is used by Juneau residents for both evening and daytime trips. The area offers opportunities for kayaking, boating, fishing, diving, beachcombing, picnicking and hiking. In the fall this area offers opportunities to hunt for sitka Blacktail deer. The area is forested with old growth Sitka Spruce and Hemlock.

Reason for Marine Park Status

This area was recommended as a marine park in the <u>Juneau Area Recreation</u>

<u>Plan</u> which was completed in June of 1982 as a cooperative interagency planning <u>effort</u>.



Name

OLIVER INLET water 135 total 560

General Location,

By boat, Oliver Inlet is located 12 miles south of Juneau between Seymour Canal and Stephens Passage on Admiralty Island.

Description of the Area

The area is comprised of old growth Sitka spruce and hemlock forests with numerous gravel beaches. A recreation cabin and five-mile narrow gauge tramway, and a registration/information station (ummanned) for the Admiralty Island National Monument are all existing facilities at this site. Oliver Inlet is a strategically located overland portage route for boaters entering Seymour Canal from Juneau. Hunting, fishing, boating, kayaking, beachcombing and wildlife viewing and photography are all frequent activities in this area. Located fully within the Admiralty Island National Monument and Federal Wilderness Area, Oliver Inlet provides access to not only Seymour Canal, but other portions of the national monument as well. Humpback and killer whales, seals, sea lions, porpoise, salmon, halibut, rock fish, Sitka deer, and brown bear are found within this area. Alaska Department of Fish and Game has identified Oliver Inlet as an important wildlife area. Good protected boat anchorages are found in both the Seymour Canal and Oliver Inlet.

Reason for Marine Park Status

Marine park status to assures both the continued public use of the area as well as the protection of it's natural and scenic values. It is the only area within the wilderness portion of the Admiralty Island National Monument where public recreational facilities can be built for purposes other than public safety. As such, it serves as a "threshold" park for Admiralty Island.



LAWS OF ALASKA

1983

Source

Chapter No.

HCS CSSB 128(Res)

64

AN ACT

Establishing certain areas as marine park units of the Alaska state park system; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1, LINE 10

Approved by the Governor: July 15, 1983 Actual Effective Date: July 16, 1983

AN ACT

Establishing certain areas as marine park units of the Alaska state park system; and providing for an effective date.

* Section 1. AS 41.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

ARTICLE 17. ALASKA MARINE PARKS.

Sec. 41.20.530. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE. (a) The purpose of AS 41.20.530 - 41.20.536 is to establish, subject to valid existing rights, the state-owned or acquired land and water described in AS 41.20.534 as marine park units of the Alaska state park system. The primary purposes in establishing the land and water areas described in AS 41.20.534 as marine park units of the Alaska state park system are to

- (1) maintain natural, cultural, and scenic values;
- (2) maintain fish and wildlife resources and lawful existing uses of these resources;
- $\hspace{1.5cm} \textbf{(3)} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{promote} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{and} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{support} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{recreation} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{and} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{tourism} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{in} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{the} \hspace{0.2cm} \\ \textbf{state} \, . \end{array}$
- (b) The land and water described in AS 41.20.534 is dedicated as special purpose sites under art. VIII, sec. 7 of the state constitution.

Sec. 41.20.532. DESIGNATION OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY. (a)

The state land and water described in AS 41.20.534 is assigned to the

Department of Natural Resources for control, maintenance, and

HCS CSSB 128(Res)

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development consistent with the purposes and provisions of AS 41.20.-530 ~ 41.20.536.

- (b) The Department of Fish and Game is responsible for the management of fish and game resources on the state land and water described in AS 41.20.534 consistent with the purposes of AS 41.20.530 41.20.536. The Department of Fish and Game shall give written notice to and consult with the Department of Natural Resources before adoption of regulations governing fish and game management in a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system.
- (c) The Department of Natural Resources shall develop a management plan for each marine park unit of the Alaska state park system to determine the specific purposes and uses for the unit. The commissioner of natural resources shall give written notice and consult with the Department of Fish and Game, proximately located municipalities of the state, proximately located private landowners, the United States Forest Service, organizations concerned with conservation, recreation, and tourism, and other interested parties during the preparation of a management plan for a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system.
- (d) The commissioner of natural resources may not restrict the exercise of fishing, hunting, or trapping rights permitted under law or under a regulation of the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game within a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system.
- (e) The commissioner of natural resources shall allow the development of aquaculture facilities within a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system under terms and conditions that ensure that the development is compatible with AS 41.20.530 41.20.536.
- (f) The commissioner of natural resources may enter into a cooperative agreement for

ECS CSSB 128(Res) .

- 2-

- (1) the management of a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system with a federal agency, a municipality of the state, or a proximately located private landowner for a purpose stated under AS 41.20.020(7); or
- (2) the management of proximately located federal, municipal, or private land as part of a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system.
- (g) In the management of a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system the commissioner of natural resources shall consult and cooperate with a Native corporation that owns an historical or cultural site granted under sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. sec. 1613(h)(1)) and that is proximately located to a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system. In the management of a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system the commissioner of natural resources shall address the potential conflicts with the cultural and historical values of land granted to a Native corporation under sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and shall provide for appropriate protection to these values.
- (h) Nothing in AS 41.20.530 41.20.536 precludes the use of or access to privately owned land or mineral claims and leases. The commissioner of natural resources shall permit adequate and feasible access across state land within a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system to and from private land within or outside a unit. In the granting of such access the commissioner of natural resources may adopt reasonable regulations to protect the natural and other values of the marine park unit lands and water.

Sec. 41.20.534. DESIGNATED LAND AND WATER. The state-owned land and water and that land and water acquired by the state in the future HCS CSSB 128(Res)

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Chapter 64

lying within the following described parcels is designated as marine park units of the Alaska state park system:

(1) Bettles Bay

Township 10 North, Range 6 East, Seward Meridian

Section 12: S1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

Section 13: NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4, N1/2SW1/4, NW1/4SE1/4

Section 14: N1/2SE1/4, S1/2NE1/4, NE1/4NE1/4

(2) Oliver Inlet

Township 43 South, Range 68 East, Copper River Meridian

Section 28: SW1/4

Section 32: E1/2E1/2

Section 33: NW1/4, W1/2SW1/4

(3) Sawmill Bay

Township 9 South, Range 9 West, Copper River Meridian

. Section 22: E1/2SE1/4, SW1/4SE1/4

Section 23: SW1/4, S1/2NW1/4, NE1/4NW1/4, W1/2NE1/4

Section 26: W1/2

Section 27: E1/2, S1/2SW1/4

Section 28: E1/2SE1/4

Section 33: NE1/4NE1/4

Section 34: N1/2, SE1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

Section 35: W1/2

Township 10 South, Range 9 West, Copper River Meridian

Section 3: N1/2NE1/4

(4) Shoup Bay

Township 8 South, Range 7 West, Copper River Meridian

Section 30: W1/2W1/2

Section 31: W1/2W1/2

Township 8 South, Range 8 West, Copper River Meridian

HCS CSSB 128(Res)

-6

27 28 29

Section 25: All

Section 26: All

Section 27: E1/2

Section 34: E1/2

Section 35: All

Section 36: All

Township 9 South, Range 8 West, Copper River Meridian

Section 1: N1/2NW1/4

Section 2: N1/2

Section 3: All

(5) South Esther Island

Township 8 North, Range 8 East, Seward Meridian

Section 3: W1/2, W1/2SE1/4, SW1/4NE1/4

Section 4: E1/2E1/2, SW1/4SE1/4

Section 5: E1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4

Section 6: E1/2SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4, NW1/4SE1/4

Section 7: N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

Section 8: E1/2, NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4

Section 9: All

Section 10: N1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4

Section 16: N1/2

Section 17: NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4

Township 9 North, Range 8 East, Seward Meridian

Section 33: SW1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, E1/2SW1/4, W1/2-SE1/4

(6) Surprise Cove

Township 8 North, Range 6 East, Seward Meridian

Section 21: SE1/4, E1/2SW1/4

Section 22: SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

-5-

HCS CSSB 128(Res)

12

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Chapter 64
                       Section 23: W1/2SW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4
                       Section 26: W1/2W1/2
                       Section 27: All
                       Section 28: $1/2, NE1/4, E1/2NW1/4
                       Section 29: SE1/4SE1/4
                       Section 34: N1/2N1/2
                       Section 35: NW1/4NW1/4
                  (7) Chilkat Islands
                  Township 32 South, Range 60 East, Copper River Meridian
                       Section 22: SE1/4
                       Section 23: All
                       Section 26: All
                       Section 27: All
                     Section 34: All
                       Section 35: All
                  Township 33 South, Range 61 East, Copper River Meridian
                       Section 4: All
                       Section 5: All
                       Section 8: All
                       Section 9: All
                       Section 16: All
                  (8) Ziegler Cove
22
                  Township 9 North, Range 6 East, Seward Meridian
23
                       Section 25: SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4
                       Section 26: E1/2
                       Section 36: N1/2N1/2
26
                  (9) Horseshoe Bay
27
                  Township 1 South, Range 9 East, Seward Meridian
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Section 32: SE1/4

HCS CSSB 128(Res)

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Township 2 South, Range 9 East, Seward Meridian
     Section 4: S1/2SW1/4 excluding amended Iron Mountain
       Lode No. 2 and Iron Mountain Lode
     Section 5: All
     Section 8: N1/2 excluding Iron Mountain Lode No. 11
       and Iron Mountain Lode No. 10
     Section 9: NWI/4NWI/4 excluding amended Iron Mountain
       Lode No. 2 and Iron Mountain Lode
(10) Sullivan Island
Township 34 South, Range 60 East, Copper River Meridian
     Section 12: SE1/4
Township 34 South, Range 61 East, Copper River Meridian
     Section 7: All
     Section 18: All
     Section 19: All
     Section 30: All
(11) Shelter Island
Township 39 South, Range 64 East, Copper River Meridian
     Section 29: All
     Section 31: All
     Section 32: All
     Section 33: All
(12) Saint James Bay
Township 37, Range 62 East, Copper River Meridian
     Section 27: All
     Section 28: All
     Section 29: All
     Section 30: SE1/4, SE1/4SW1/4
     Section 31: E1/2NW1/4, NE1/4SW1/4, E1/2
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HCS CSSB 128(Res)

Chapter 64

Section 32: All

Section 33: All

Section 34: All

Section 35: W1/2

Township 38 South, Range 62 East, Copper River Meridian

Section 2: W1/2

Section 3: All

Section 4: All

Section 5: All

Section 6: NE1/4, E1/2SE1/4

Section 8: N1/2, NE1/4SW1/4, SE1/4

Section 9: All

Section 10: All

Section 11: W1/2

Section 14: NW1/4

Section 15: N1/2

Section 16: N1/2

Section 17: N1/2NE1/4, SE1/4NE1/4

Sec. 41.20.536. COMPATIBILITY OF USES. (a) The commissioner of natural resources may prohibit or restrict by regulation except as provided in AS 41.20.532(d) incompatible uses within the state-owned land and water described in AS 41.20.534.

- (b) Discharge of a firearm is permitted in state-owned land and water described in AS 41.20.534 unless the land or water is closed by regulation of the commissioner of natural resources for public safety purposes.
- (c) Nothing in AS 41.20.530 41.20.536 prohibits the Department of Fish and Game from engaging in rehabilitation, enhancement, and development under AS 16.05.092 within an area described in HCS CSSB 128(Res)

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AS 41.20.534.

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- (d) Reasonable access shall be permitted to and across a marine park unit of the Alaska state park system for lawful hunting, fishing, trapping and recreational purposes.
- (e) The Department of Fublic Safety and the Department of Fish and Game shall be allowed reasonable access for fish and game management, research, and enforcement purposes.
- \star Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-10.070(c).

HCS CSSB 128(Res)

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